

Request for Proposal
The University of Mississippi Medical Center
University of Mississippi Medical Center FCC Pilot Project
RFP # 17263-01

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received in the Office of Contracts Administration, at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS, until 2:00 p.m. **June 15, 2011** and no proposal will be accepted after this time.

Sealed proposals (original and 3 copies) must be submitted and plainly marked on the outside of the container: **University of Mississippi Medical Center FCC Pilot Project, RFP # 17263-01.**

General Information

RFP Preparation

The response submitted by a vendor must be completed and signed in ink. The individual signing the response must be an authorized agent of the vendor. Faxed or unsealed responses to this RFP will not be accepted or considered. Responses to the RFP must be placed in a sealed container and mailed or delivered to the following address:

University of Mississippi Medical Center
Attention: Contracts Administration
2500 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39216-4505

Bidders should examine the RFP document carefully and, before submitting a Proposal, may request in writing an interpretation or correction of any inconsistency or error therein which should have been discovered by a reasonably prudent Bidder. **All such questions, in order to be considered, must be sent via email to Greg Hall (ghall@umc.edu) and Kristi Henderson (khenderson@umc.edu) at least (5) business days prior to the RFP closing date. Questions should be directed in writing or email only; phone calls will not be accepted. Any unauthorized contact shall not be used as a basis for responding to this RFP and may result in the disqualification of the proposer's submittal.**

Only the written interpretation or correction so given by the authorized UMMC representative shall be binding and prospective.

Bidders are hereby informed that no other agent, or employee, of UMMC is authorized to provide information concerning, or to explain or interpret, the RFP.

Such interpretations or corrections, as well as any additional provisions that UMMC may decide to include, will be issued in writing as an addendum to the RFP documents and binding on all prospective Bidders whether or not actual notice of such addendum are shown. A prospective Bidder's failure to request an interpretation or correction shall preclude such Bidder from thereafter claiming ambiguity, inconsistency or error which should have been discovered by a reasonably prudent analysis.

The University of Mississippi Medical Center Office of Contracts Administration is the issuing office for this document and all subsequent addenda relating thereto. The reference number for the transaction is RFP #17263-01. This number must be referenced on all proposals, correspondence, and documentation relating to this RFP.

RFP Response Outline

Proposals must be concise and in outline format. Pertinent supplemental information should be referenced and included as attachments. All proposals must be organized and tabbed to comply with the following sections:

Tab A: Letter of Transmittal. The letter of transmittal should include an introduction of the company, the name, address, telephone number and fax number of the person to be contacted, along with others who are authorized to represent the company in dealing with this RFP. Any other information not appropriately contained in the proposal itself should also be included in the letter.

Tab B: Executive Summary. An executive summary will briefly describe the contractor's approach and clearly indicate any options or alternatives being proposed. It should also indicate any major requirements that cannot be met by the company.

Tab C: Detailed Discussion. This section should constitute the major portion of the proposal and must contain **a specific response to each section in this RFP.**

Tab D: Cost Proposal. The contractor must submit a cost proposal allowing costs to be evaluated independently of other criteria in the proposal.

Tab E: Financial Reports. The contractor should furnish a current audited financial report for the company's most recent fiscal year.

Tab F: Sample Agreement. The contractor should furnish a sample contract for all services to be provided.

Tab G: Miscellaneous. Additional information and attachments, if any, may be submitted by the contractor.

The information provided within this proposal is intended to assist vendors in the preparation of a proper response to this RFP. This RFP is designed to provide interested vendors with sufficient basic information to submit proposals meeting minimum requirements; but is not intended to limit a proposal's content, or to exclude any relevant or essential information or data thereof. Vendors are permitted to (and encouraged to) expand upon specifications to evidence service capability under any agreement.

Vendors are responsible for examining and following all specifications, terms, conditions, and instructions in the RFP. Failure to do so will be at the vendor's risk.

The supplier will absorb all costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal.

Rejection of Responses:

The University of Mississippi Medical Center reserves the right to reject responses for the following reasons, but shall not be limited to:

Failure to follow specifications and instructions contained in the RFP.

A response that alters terms or limits contained in the RFP.

Any response determined by the Medical Center as being unreasonable in terms, cost, etc.

This RFP does not commit the Medical Center to contract for any requirements detailed in this document. The Medical Center reserves the right to reject any or all offers and to waive informalities and minor irregularities in the proposal received.

SCOPE OF PROJECT

The University of Mississippi Medical Center is an 837 bed acute care facility located on a 164-acre campus in Jackson, MS. At the Jackson campus, we operate one general acute teaching hospital and three specialty teaching hospitals. This RFP is for services at the entire UMMC family and locations (i.e. Main campus, Jackson Medical Mall, Select Specialty, Holmes County Hospital & Clinics, and Durant Nursing Center).

UMMC is fully committed to providing patients with the highest quality of care available. This care includes not only the most advanced technology and expertise, but also the promise to treat our patients and their families with respect, compassion, and dignity regardless of ability to pay.

In an ever-increasing competitive market, UMMC continues to look for new and innovative cost reduction methods in its efforts to provide affordable healthcare. As UMMC embarks upon its supply/operating cost reduction efforts, your assistance and continued commitment are being requested to participate in this Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

UMMC recognizes the expertise provided by many contractors and encourages creativity in your proposal. Contractors are encouraged to submit cost-saving/value-added suggestions. Please indicate clearly what is being proposed and how it will benefit UMMC.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

UMMC intends to contract with a sole vendor for providing this service to the medical center.

UMMC is under no obligation to select any of the prospective offers nor is it obligated to select the lowest priced proposal if in its sole discretion another offer is better qualified to provide the desired services. UMMC may terminate any contracts resulting from this proposal for **non-performance** at any time by notifying the vendor in writing at least thirty (30) days in advance of the date of termination specified in such notice. On said termination, vendor shall be paid for all services satisfactorily rendered through the date of said termination.

The contractor agrees to abide by all applicable local, state and federal laws. Moreover, the contractor agrees to hold harmless the University should the contractor be found in violation of any of these laws.

This agreement may not be assigned without prior written consent of the Medical Center; any attempt to assign any rights, duties, or obligations which arise under this agreement without such consent shall be void.

The parties may agree to use alternative dispute resolution (ADR) to settle any differences that may arise during the performance of this agreement, although it is not mandatory that they do so. The parties shall attempt in good faith to negotiate any dispute arising out of or relating to this agreement by negotiation between executives and/or officials who have authority to settle the controversy and who are at a higher level of management than the person with direct authority for this contract. Either party may give the other written notice of any dispute not resolved within the normal course of business.

In the event UMMC is not granted a general operating appropriation for any fiscal period within the term of the contract and operating funds are not otherwise available, we shall have the option of terminating the contract. UMMC shall not, following such termination, replace the award for any other similar or dissimilar services performed by an outside contractor.

The University of Mississippi Medical Center offers equal opportunity in employment, education and all programs and services, M/F/D/V.

INDEMNITY:

The Contractor shall, at all times, fully indemnify, hold harmless, and defend UMMC and its officers, members, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims and demands, actions, causes of action, and cost and fees of any character whatsoever made by anyone whomsoever on account of or in any way growing out of the performance of this contract by the Contractor and its employees, or because of any act or omission, neglect or misconduct of the Contractor, its employees and agents or its subcontractors including, but not limited to, any claims that may be made by the employees themselves for injuries to their person or property or otherwise.

Such indemnity shall not be limited by reason of the enumeration of any insurance coverage herein provided.

Nothing contained herein shall be construed as prohibiting UMMC, its directors, officers, agents, or its employees, from defending through the selection and use of their own agents, attorneys and experts, any claims, actions or suits brought against them.

The Contractor shall likewise be liable for the cost, fees and expenses incurred in UMMC's or the Contractor's defense of any such claims, actions, or suits.

The Contractor shall be responsible for any damages incurred as a result of its errors, omissions or negligent acts and for any losses or costs to repair or remedy construction as a result of its errors, omissions or negligent acts.

ADDENDUM AND SUPPLEMENT TO REQUEST:

If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this request or if additional data is necessary to enable the exact interpretation of provisions of this request, revisions will be provided in the form of an Addendum. Addenda, if any, will be mailed to those companies to whom RFP packages have been sent prior to the scheduled RFP opening and will be issued by the UMMC Contracts Administration Department.

PAYMENT:

The goal of UMMC is to pay properly submitted Contractor invoices within thirty (30) days of receipt. Original invoices must be presented for payment in accordance with instructions contained on the Purchase Order including reference to Purchase Order number and submitted to the correct address for processing.

PROTEST:

Any protest concerning the award of a contract shall be decided by the Director of Contracts Administration. Protests shall be made in writing to the UMMC Contracts Administration Department and shall be filed within ten (10) days of issuance of award notification. A protest is considered filed when received by the UMMC Contracts Administration Department. The written protest shall include the name and address of the protestor, identification of the procurement, a statement of the specific reasons for the protest and supporting exhibits. The Director of Contracts Administration will respond to the written protest within seven (7) days. The Director's decision relative to the protest shall be final.

TAX:

The University of Mississippi Medical Center is tax-exempt. The tax exemption number is 64-6008520. A copy of the exemption letter is available upon request.

TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OR ASSIGNMENT:

The terms and conditions of this contract shall be binding upon and shall ensure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.

Prior to any sales or assignments, UMMC must be notified and approve same in writing. UMMC shall have right of first refusal.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

This RFP is in response to UMMC being awarded a Pilot Project by the FCC to make changes to the current use of the Universal Service Fund. Please see <http://www.usac.org/rhc-pilot-program/tools/general-information.aspx> for

general information about the program. Also, please visit <http://www.usac.org/rhc-pilot-program/vendors/> to ensure that your company complies with all USAC and FCC requirements of vendors for the program. We are looking for flat rate pricing for all locations throughout Mississippi. The facilities listed will need to have a network amongst all sites, as well as internet access for each site. Locations, and current bandwidth requirements for those locations, will be listed below. Each location listed reserves the right to leave the program before installation of the line, for any reason.

Location List:

HCP Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Requirements
Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	1701 White St.	McComb	MS	39648	Needs at least a 6Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Adams County Lifeskills Center Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	14 Feltus St.	Natchez	MS	39120	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	200 S. Wall St.	Natchez	MS	39120	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Amite County Mental Health Center Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	315 Main St	Liberty	MS	39645	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.

Claiborne County Mental Health and Pathway House Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	2090 Hwy 61N	Port Gibson	MS	39150	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Franklin County Mental Health Center - Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	47 Main St	Meadville	MS	39653	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
IMPACT	301 Robb St.	Summit	MS	39666	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Lawrence County Lifeskills Center Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	1230 Nola Rd.	Monticello	MS	39654	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Lincoln County Lifeskills Center Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	120 W. Monticello	Brookhaven	MS	39601	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Lincoln County Mental Health Center Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	511 Brookman Dr.	Brookhaven	MS	39601	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.

Pike Country Lifeskills Center Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	651 S Broadway	McComb	MS	39648	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Trace House Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	217 O'Ferrell Alley	Natchez	MS	39120	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Train Clubhouse	136 Captain Gloster Rd	Gloster	MS	39638	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Walthall County Mental Health Center Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	219 Ball Ave	Tylertown	MS	39667	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Family Health Care Clinic - Woodville Region XI - Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex	1495 Hwy 61S	Woodville	MS	39669	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VoIP, network administration, video conferencing and training.
Jefferson Comprehensive Health	225 Community Dr	Fayette	MS	39069	Needs at least a 50Mbps connection for Electronic Medical Records, data, VOIP, network administration, video conferencing, and training.

Adams County Family Health Center /dba Jefferson Comprehensive Health Center	145 Homochitto Dr	Natchez	MS	39120	Needs at least a 10Mbps connection for VPN to host site, Electronic Medical Record, data, VOIP, network administrations, video conferencing, and training.
Jefferson Comprehensive Health Center High School-Based Clinic	4477 Main St.	Fayette	MS	39069	Needs at least a 6Mbps connection for VPN to host site, EMR, data, VOIP, network administration, network administration, video conferencing, and training.
Jefferson Comprehensive Health Center Elementary School-Based Clinic	430 Hwy 33	Fayette	MS	39069	Needs at least a 6Mbps connection for VPN to host site, EMR, data, VOIP, network administration, network administration, video conferencing, and training.
Weems Mental Health Clarke County	100 Park Place	Quitman	MS	39355	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to link with their main center in Meridian.
Weems Mental Health Jasper County	9 North Second Street	Bay Springs	MS	39422	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to link with their main center in Meridian.
Weems Mental Health Kemper County	110 Hopper Avenue	Dekalb	MS	39329	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to link with their main center in Meridian.

Weems Mental Health Leake County	529 East Main St	Carthage	MS	39051	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to link with their main center in Meridian.
Weems Mental Health Neshoba County	1011 Posey Ave	Philadelphia	MS	39350	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to link with their main center in Meridian.
Weems Mental Health Newton County	92 South 6th Ave	Decatur	MS	39327	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to link with their main center in Meridian.
Weems Mental Health Scott County	3717 Hwy 80 West	Forest	MS	39074	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to link with their main center in Meridian.
Weems Mental Health Smith County	355 Hwy 37 South	Raleigh	MS	39153	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to link with their main center in Meridian.
Scott County AOP Program	203 West Main St	Forest	MS	39074	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to link with their main center in Meridian.

Weems Mental Health Pinnacle House	633 22nd Ave	Meridian	MS	39301	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to link with their main center in Meridian.
Aaron E Henry Community Health Services Center, Inc. - Administrative Site	510 Highway 322	Clarksdale	MS	38614	Needs at least a 20 Mbps connection for data, Internet Access and VOIP.
Aaron E Henry Community Health Services Center, Inc. - Clarksdale Clinic	800 Ohio Street	Clarksdale	MS	38614	Needs at least a 3.0 Mbps connection for data needs.
Aaron E Henry Community Health Services Center, Inc. - Batesville Clinic	216 Highway 51 N.	Batesville	MS	38606	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for data needs.
Aaron E Henry Community Health Services Center, Inc. - Tunica Clinic	1820 Peabody Avenue	Tunica	MS	38676	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for data needs.
Aaron E Henry Community Health Services Center, Inc. - Tunica School Based Clinic	1100 Rosa Fort Dr	Tunica	MS	38676	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for data needs.

Houlka Medical Clinic	106 Walker Street	Houlka	MS	38850	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for data needs.
Tremont Medical Clinic	10013 Hwy 178 West	Tremont	MS	38876	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for data needs.
Tupelo Medical Clinic	499 Gloster Creek Village Suite D1	Tupelo	MS	38801	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection for data needs.
Smithville Medical Clinic	63420 Highway 25 North	Smithville	MS	38870	Needs at least a 10 Mbps connection for data needs.
Greene Area Medical Extenders - State Line Medical Center	52 Kennedy Street	State Line	MS	39362	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Greene Area Medical Extenders - Leakesville Elementary School	175 Annex Road	Leakesville	MS	39451	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.

Greene Area Medical Extenders - Leakesville Junior High School	620 Main Street	Leakesville	MS	39451	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Greene Area Medical Extenders - McLain School	Hwy. 198	McLain	MS	39456	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Greene Area Medical Extenders - Greene County High School	4336 High School Rd	Leakesville	MS	39451	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Greene Area Medical Extenders - Sand Hill School Clinic	39455 Hwy 63	Richton	MS	39161	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Coastal Family Health Center - Bay St. Louis	109 Hospital Dr.	Bay St. Louis	MS	39520	Needs at least a 10 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Coastal Family Health Center - Biloxi	715-A Division Street	Biloxi	MS	39530	Needs at least a 10 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.

Coastal Family Health Center - Moss Point	4770 Amoco Dr.	Moss Point	MS	39563	Needs at least a 10 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Coastal Family Health Center - Pass Christian	295 Fleitas St.	Pass Christian	MS	39571	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Coastal Family Health Center - Saucier	23453 Central Dr.	Saucier	MS	39574	Needs at least a 10 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Coastal Family Health Center - Gulfport	15024 Martin Luther King Jr.	Gulfport	MS	39503	Needs at least a 10 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Coastal Family Health Center - Vancleave	10828 Hwy 57 N.	Vancleave	MS	39565	Needs at least a 10 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Access Family Health Services - Dental Clinic	60024 Oliver St.	Smithville	MS	38870	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.

Claiborne County Family Health Center	2045 Highway 61 N.	Port Gibson	MS	39150	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Claiborne County Family Health Center - A. W. Watson Elementary School-Based Clinic	880 Anthony Street	Port Gibson	MS	39150	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Claiborne County Family Health Center - Port Gibson Middle School-Based Clinic	161 Ramsey Street	Port Gibson	MS	39150	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Central Mississippi Health Services, Inc.	1134 Winter Street	Jackson	MS	39204	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Central Mississippi Health Services, Inc. - Tougaloo	500 West County Line Rd.	Tougaloo	MS	39174	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.
Central Mississippi Health Services, Inc. - Jackson (southwest clinic)	5429 Robinson Rd. Ext.	Jackson	MS	39204	Needs at least a 1.5 Mbps connection to connect to their electronic health record network data center.

Family Health Center Main Building - Laurel Clinic	117 S. 11th Avenue	Laurel	MS	39440	Needs at least a 15 Mbps connection for data needs.
Family Health Center Taylorsville	411 Willis Street	Taylorsville	MS	39168	Needs at least a 6 Mbps connection for data needs.
George Regional Hospital	859 Winter St.	Lucedale	MS	39452	Needs at least a 100 Mbps connection for data needs that include outbound Internet traffic, FTP transfers, website access, inbound Physician's and Employee's Portal, Radiology PACS uploads through VPN to Nighthawk, remote PACS access, remote Email access and VOIP telephony.
Wiggins Primary Care Center and Urgent Care Center	975 Hall St.	Wiggins	MS	39577	Needs at least a 10 Mbps connection back to the main hospital, George Regional Hospital. This connection will be used for radiology, PACS, EMR, Internet access and VOIP.
Greene County Hospital	1017 Jackson Street	Leakesville	MS	39451	Needs at least a 10 Mbps connection back to the main hospital, George Regional Hospital. This connection will be used for radiology, PACS, EMR, Internet access and VOIP.

BASIS OF AWARD:

The proposals will be evaluated based on each vendor's qualifications, relevant experience with similar work and the schedule of billing rates.

MEETINGS:

The selected vendor may be asked to attend a pre-award meeting. The date and time for this meeting will be set with the vendor prior to the award of the contract.

PRICING:

Prices shall remain firm for the first year of the agreement. The annual price escalation shall be based on the CPI.

RENEWAL & EXTENSION:

The initial contract shall be in effect for length of project provided there is no change in the terms, conditions, and specifications. **In no event shall the term of the agreement exceed five years per state law. All renewals or contract extensions will be initiated through the UMMC Purchasing Department. No other UMMC department has authorization to renew or extend this agreement.**

RIGHTS RESERVED BY OWNER:

UMMC shall have authority to require the Contractor to remove, from the site, any employee of the Contractor who shall be deemed incompetent or detrimental to the best interests of the work of the Medical Center.

SUBCONTRACTORS:

No subcontractors shall be used without the prior consent of UMMC.

UMMC SUPPLIER DIVERSITY POLICY:

UMMC will provide business opportunities for qualified small, minority, women and veteran-owned businesses. UMMC is committed to the inclusion of small, minority, women and veteran-owned (MSWV) businesses as an integral part of its supply, contractor and professional services efforts. Through the Diversified Vendor Program, UMMC recognizes its responsibility to the communities that it serves, and the society in which it conducts its business. The use of SMWV owned businesses must be a function of our normal purchasing, contractor and professional services process and as is customary, no potential supplier, contractor or professional service provider will be precluded from consideration based on race, color, religion, sex, age or national origin.

Terms of this RFP require prime contractors to report subcontract use of SMWV vendors on a quarterly basis

SMALL – MINORITY – WOMEN – VETERAN OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES. (SMWV)

UMMC may be required by law, regulation, and/or internal policy to do business with certain small, minority, women or veteran owned businesses. Vendors will assist UMMC in meeting these requirements by complying with all UMMC policies and programs with respect to these businesses. In its discretion, UMMC may make and award and/or negotiate another agreement with an SMWV in addition to any sole- or multi-source award.

STRATEGIES TO INCREASE MINORITY VENDOR PARTICIPATION

If it is in the best interest of UMMC, UMMC may attempt to unbundle opportunities in order to reduce the size of the contracts and increase the potential participation of minority vendors.

AWARDING THE CONTRACT:

All proposals shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days from the indicated submission date for proposals. UMMC reserves the right to reject any and all proposals submitted. The contract will be awarded to the offeror whose proposal, based upon the evaluation criteria, and is deemed to be in the best interest of this facility.

UMMC reserves the right to seek additional information or clarification from bidding organizations. If a bidding organization considers its proposal or particular portions thereof, as containing trade secrets, information privileged by law or confidential commercial or financial data, then this should be conspicuously noted.

In submitting a proposal, each bidding organization acknowledges its understanding and acceptance of the above-stated procedures, terms and conditions. Any contract that is entered into as a result of this process will be based on the contents of this Request for Proposal. Therefore, the contents of this RFP and your responses to it both now and during negotiations will be considered to be an integral part of the final contract.

The vendor should submit with their response a sample agreement for all services to be provided. Format must provide for maintaining the confidentiality of patient data in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations. The laws of the State of Mississippi shall govern the agreement.

Also, before the University can enter into any contractual arrangement, the attached Standard Contract Addendum (and BAA if applicable) must be signed.

At the time the contract is awarded, the selected vendor will be required to register with the UMMC vendor credentialing system, Vendormate, which requires a fee for registration at the expense of the vendor.